

§ 881.8

(c) The State shall maintain suitable records and accounts of its transactions with and payments to project contractors, and the Government may inspect and audit such accounts and records during normal business hours and as it may deem necessary.

§ 881.8 Withholding of payments.

Whenever the Secretary, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that there is a failure by the State to expend funds in accordance with the terms and conditions governing the Government's contribution for an approved project, he shall notify the State that further payments will not be made to the State from available appropriations until he is satisfied that there will no longer be any such failure. Until the Secretary is so satisfied, payment of any financial contribution to the State shall be withheld.

§ 881.9 Reports.

At such times and in such detail as the Secretary shall require, the State shall furnish to the Secretary a statement with respect to each project showing the work done, the status of the project, expenditures, and amounts obligated, and such other information as may be required.

§ 881.10 Obligations of States or local authorities.

(a) The State shall have full responsibility for installing, operating, and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to the regulations in this part.

(b) The State shall give evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary, that it will enforce effective safeguards with respect to installation, operation, and maintenance.

(c) The State shall agree that neither the Government nor any of its officers, agents, or employees shall be responsible for any loss, expense, damages to property, or injuries to persons, which may arise from or be incident to work upon, or to the use and occupation of any property affected by operations under, the project, and the State shall agree to hold the Government and its officers, agents, or employees harmless from all such claims.

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(d) In order to assure effective safeguards with respect to installation, operation, and maintenance, the State or local authority will be required to own (or control), the land, subsurface, or coal seams in instances such as the following:

(1) If the objective of the project is to prevent or alleviate subsidence, the State or local authority shall have or acquire such subsurface and underground rights or interests in such coal seams or coal measures as may be required to assure the stability and continued existence of the project and to such an extent as will give reasonable assurance that the work will not be disturbed in the future.

(2) If the objective of the project is to rehabilitate or reclaim strip-mined areas, the land shall be owned by the Federal, State, or local body of government. Such ownership shall comprise such mineral, subsurface and underground rights and interests as will assure that no further mining operations will be conducted upon or under the land in the future.

(3) If the objective of the project is to seal abandoned open shafts, slopes, air holes and other mine openings to underground workings where public safety hazards exist, or to control or prevent erosion, water pollution, or discharge of harmful mine waters, the State shall have or acquire such right, title or interest in the lands as will assure the stability and continued existence of the project work.

(4) The extent of ownership or control necessary shall be determined with respect to each individual project.

(e) The State or local authorities, shall agree not to mine or permit the mining of coal or other minerals in the land or property owned or controlled by the State or local authorities, if required by OSM to assure the success or protection of the project work for such period of time as may be required by OSM.

(f) Upon request of OSM, the State or local authority shall furnish and disclose the nature and extent of its right, title, or interest in lands within, or which may be affected by, the project and submit an analysis, in writing, of the title situation, the effectiveness, extent and strength of the title which